

HIGH-PERFORMANCE LOCK MANAGEMENT FOR FLASH COPY IN
N-WAY SHARED STORAGE SYSTEMS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0048] A method, system, and machine-readable medium for providing high-performance lock management for a flash copy image of a region of data in N-way shared storage systems is disclosed. According to one embodiment, a data processing system is provided which comprises a cache to store a copy of metadata specifying a coherency relationship between a region of data and a flash copy image of the region of data, wherein the metadata is subject to one or more lock protocols controlled by an owner storage controller node; and a client storage controller node, coupled with the cache, comprising an input/output performing component to receive a request to perform an input/output operation on at least one of the region of data and the flash copy image of the region of data and to perform the input/output operation utilizing the copy of the metadata.

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
17 June 2004 (17.06.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/051473 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: H04L 29/06

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/GB2003/003567

(22) International Filing Date: 14 August 2003 (14.08.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
0227825.7 29 November 2002 (29.11.2002) GB

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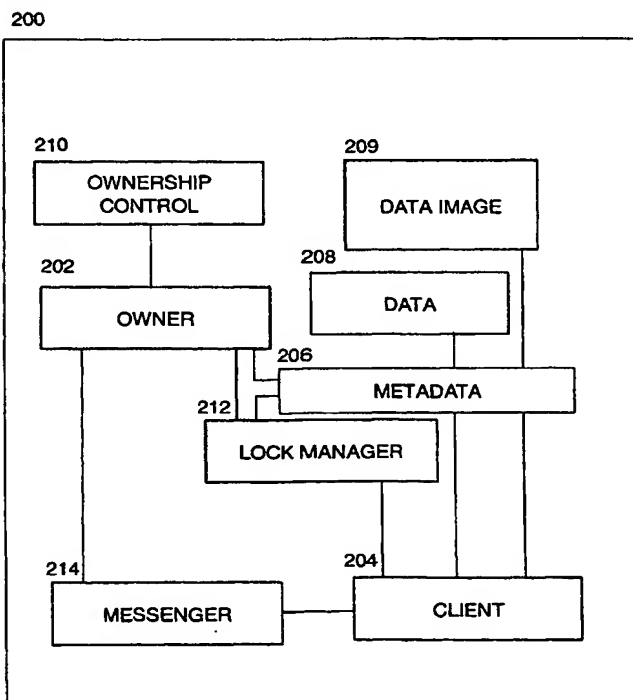
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(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),

[Continued on next page]

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(57) Abstract: Storage control apparatus is operable in a network of storage controller nodes having an owner node operable to control locking of a region of data during I/O activity, a messaging component operable to request locks, grant locks, request release of locks and signal lock release. The apparatus comprises an I/O performing component to perform I/O on data owned by any owner node, subject to compliance with lock protocols controlled by the owner node. Any Flash Copy image of the region of data is maintained in a coherency relation with the region of data, and the I/O performing component is operable to cache a previous positive confirmation that the region of data has been left in a coherency relation with any said Flash Copy image, and to perform I/O activity on the basis of said previous positive confirmation.